

App. No. 09/788,303

Amendment under 37 CFR §1.111

REMARKS

Claims 3-6, 12-17, 24, 28-32, 72, 82-85, 107-108, 152, 167-252 remain pending in the application. Claims 3-5, 12, 17, 24, 28-30, 72, 82, 107, 152, 167, 214, and 230 are independent claims. Claims 2, 21-23, 25-27, 102-103, and 139-140 have been cancelled, and Claims 3-5, 24, 28-30, 72, 82, 107, and 152, have been amended in response to Examiner rejections and objections. Claims 1, 7-11, 18-20, 33-71, 73-81, 86-101, 104-106, 109-138, 141-151, and 153-166, drawn to a non-elected invention, have been cancelled. Reexamination and reconsideration of the application, as amended, are respectfully requested.

Examiner has rejected Claims 2, 21-23, 25-27, 102-103, and 139-140 under 35 USC §102(b) as being anticipated by Presby (US4932989). The rejection is obviated, since the rejected claims have been cancelled without prejudice.

Examiner has objected to Claims 3-6, 12-17, 24, 28-32, 72, 82-85, 107-108, and 167-252 as being dependent on a rejected based claim, but allowable if rewritten in independent form, including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

It is believed the objection is overcome, since none of claims 3-6, 12-17, 24, 28-32, 72, 82-85, 107-108, and 167-252, as amended, depends on any rejected or non-elected base claim.

Claims 3-5, originally dependent on rejected Claim 2 and non-elected Claim 1, have each been rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of Claims 1 and 2. Claim 6 is dependent on Claim 5.

Claims 12 and 17, as originally presented, are independent claims. Claims 13-16 are dependent on Claim 12. As such, the objection is improper, and should be withdrawn.

Claims 24 and 28-29, originally dependent on rejected Claim 21 and non-elected Claim 20, have each been rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of Claims 20 and 21.

Claim 30, originally dependent on non-elected Claim 20, has been rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of Claim 20. Claims 31-32 are dependent on Claim 30.

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Claim 72, originally dependent on non-elected Claims 71, 63, and 20, has been rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of Claims 20, 63, and 71.

Claim 82, originally dependent on non-elected Claims 76, 75, and 20, has been rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of Claims 20, 75, and 76. Claims 83-85 are dependent on Claim 82.

Claim 107, originally dependent on non-elected Claims 93 and 20, has been rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of Claims 20 and 93. Claim 108 is dependent on Claim 107.

Claims 167, 214, and 230, as originally presented, are independent claims. Claims 168-213 are dependent on Claim 167. Claims 215-229 are dependent on Claim 214. Claims 231-252 are dependent on Claim 230. As such, the objection is improper, and should be withdrawn.

In view of the above, it is submitted that Claims 3-6, 12-17, 24, 28-32, 72, 82-85, 107-108, 152, 167-252 are in condition for allowance. Reconsideration of the rejections and objections is respectfully requested. Allowance of Claims 3-6, 12-17, 24, 28-32, 72, 82-85, 107-108, 152, 167-252 at an early date is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,



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